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Abstract

A method for the failsafe monitoring of the rotational movement of a shaft comprises a first step of picking up a characteristic pulse train with a number of pulses following one another at successive times, the time interval between the pulses is dependent on the rotational movement. A second step determines a monitoring time period and a third step monitors whether an expected pulse of the pulse train occurs within the monitoring time period. Finally, there is a fourth step of generating a control signal when the expected pulse does not occur within the monitoring time period. The monitoring time period is repeatedly adapted to the time interval of the pulses during monitoring.